

State of California  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
San Diego Region

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT  
June 10, 2004

ITEM: 13

SUBJECT: The 2004 Basin Plan Triennial Review (Laurie Walsh and Jody Ebsen)

PURPOSE: To hold a public hearing to receive testimony pertaining to the 2004 Basin Plan Triennial Review and related documents including the 2004 Basin Plan Triennial Review Technical Report (Supporting Document 1), and Tentative Resolution No. R9-2004-0156 (Supporting Document 1, Appendix C).

PUBLIC NOTICE: Public notification for this item was published in the Orange County Register, the San Diego Union Tribune, the Press-Enterprise, and the North County Times on April 22-24, 2004, respectively. The public comment period is scheduled to end on June 10, 2004, at the close of the hearing.

DISCUSSION: The Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Basin Plan) designates beneficial uses for surface and ground waters in the San Diego Region, and establishes water quality objectives and implementation plans to protect those beneficial uses. Both State and federal laws mandate the periodic review and update of basin plans. The periodic review is called the "Triennial Review" after the federal requirement to conduct reviews every three years.

Tentative Resolution No. R9-2004-0156 certifies completion of the 2004 Basin Plan Triennial Review and adopts the prioritized list of basin plan issues for investigation and possible preparation of basin plan amendments over the next three years. Once adopted, the prioritized list of issues functions as a workplan, to guide basin planning efforts until the next Triennial Review.

125 issues were submitted by the public, Regional Board and other agencies for consideration during the Triennial Review (Supporting Document 1, Appendix A). After dropping duplicate issues, combining similar issues, and removing 14 issues not appropriate for the Triennial Review (Supporting Document 1, Appendices D and E), a total of 47 Basin Plan issues were evaluated (Supporting Document 1, Appendices D and F) and prioritized in a list (Supporting Document 1, Appendix B). An analysis of the resources needed to investigate and adopt Basin Plan amendments for the

prioritized issues (Supporting Document 1, Appendix G) showed that approximately 102 personnel years (PYs) are needed to investigate and adopt Basin Plan amendments for the issues. With the Regional Board's allocation of 1.69 PYs per fiscal year for Basin Planning projects, 60 years are needed to complete Basin Plan amendments for all the prioritized issues.

Resources are available over the next three years to investigate the top six issues on the prioritized list. The three-year resource projection for basin planning is \$387,408. The cost to investigate the first six issues on the prioritized list was estimated to be \$374,286. Therefore, the top six issues were compiled in the *Prioritized List of Basin Plan Issues for Investigation from August 2004 to August 2007* and attached to the Tentative Resolution for adoption by the Regional Board.

The cost estimates did not include the resources needed to prepare and adopt Basin Plan amendments for the issues. If a Basin Plan amendment is prepared for one or more issues, resources may not be available to investigate all six issues listed. To conserve resources, issues may be further grouped for investigation. Alternative funding also may be found for basin planning efforts. If resource availability or issue priorities change before the next Triennial Review, the Regional Board may decide to modify the list, establishing new priorities and reallocating resources.

LEGAL CONCERNS:

None.

SUPPORTING  
DOCUMENTS:

- (1) 2004 Basin Plan Triennial Review Technical Report and Appendices  
Appendix A – Notice of Public Solicitation Period, Public Workshops, and Public Hearings on Basin Plan Triennial Review  
Appendix B – Prioritized 2004 Basin Plan Triennial Review Issue List  
Appendix C – Tentative Resolution No. R9-2004-0156.  
Appendix D – Ranking Process  
Appendix E – Completed Initial Question Forms  
Appendix F – Completed Technical Ranking Forms  
Appendix G – Resource Estimate Details
- (2) Corrected Figure 1. 2004 Basin Plan Triennial Review Evaluation Flow Chart.

RECOMMENDATION:

Close the public hearing, the public review and comment period, and consider adoption of Tentative Resolution R9-2004-0156 at the August 2004 Board meeting.